

We need your help ...

The fight against the War on Terror will not be easy. It will take a patient and determined nation to make a difference. You can help be a part of that difference. Please be aware of your surroundings as you go to work, school, shopping, or just being out in your neighborhood. Often, it is you who notices something that is odd, unusual, or out-of-place. You are our first line of defense—whether it is merely criminal activity or the planning for an act of terrorism. Please report what you see to either the WMIC or your local law enforcement agency.

Thank you for being observant!



Local Law Enforcement Contacts

Frederick Police Department

301-600-2101

Frederick County Sheriff's Office

301-600-1046

Thurmont Police Department

301-271-0905

Brunswick Police Department

301-834-9101

Provost Marshal—Fort Detrick

301-619-3111

Maryland State Police

301-644-4151

Washington County Sheriff's Office

240-313-2100

Hagerstown Police Department

301-790-3700

Western Maryland Information Center

Frederick County Law Enforcement Center

110 Airport Drive East

Frederick, Maryland 21701

1-866-969-9642

301-600-7133 (fax)

wmic@fredco-md.net or wmic0301@leo.gov

WESTERN MARYLAND INFORMATION CENTER



Reporting Suspicious Activity

**Terrorism Awareness
Reference Guide**



**Frederick & Washington
Counties, Maryland**

Seven Signs of Terrorism

Surveillance If terrorists are targeting a specific area, they will most likely be watching activities in that area during the planning phase of their operation. They will attempt to determine the target's strengths and weaknesses. They may also test the emergency response to the target. Routes to and from the target are usually established during the surveillance phase.

Note suspicious activity such as: someone taking photographs or video, drawing diagrams or making notes on a map, and using vision-enhancing devices.

Seeking Information Terrorists often attempt to gain information about a target—a place, person, or operation—through inquiries. These elicitation attempts can be made by mail, e-mail, fax, phone, or in person.

Examples would be someone inquiring about critical infrastructure like a water treatment plant. Terrorists may attempt to research bridge usage or make unusual inquiries about how a facility, i.e., a hospital, operates. Additionally, they may attempt to place “key” people in sensitive work locations to gain intelligence.



Testing Security “Probing” is a technique terrorists use to gather data about a target's security. These tests are usually conducted by driving past or even penetrating the target and then observing law enforcement's response.

Specific areas of interests to terrorists would include: how long it takes law enforcement to respond, the number of responding personnel, and the routes taken to the location. Terrorists may also try to penetrate physical security barriers or test the response procedures in order to assess strengths and weaknesses. Vehicles may be parked for unusually long periods of time, sometimes in no parking areas as another test.

Acquiring Supplies This may be a case where someone is purchasing or stealing weapons, ammunition, or explosives. It could be the unusual purchase or storage of fertilizer or harmful chemicals.

Terrorists would also find it useful to acquire law enforcement equipment and identification, military uniforms and decals, as well as flight passes, badges, or even flight manuals. Terrorists often use false or stolen identification documents, including passports and driver's licenses.

Suspicious Behavior Another pre-incident indicator is the presence of suspicious people who don't look out-of-place. This could include in a workplace, building, neighborhood, or business who do not fit in because of their demeanor, unusual questions they ask, or comments that they make.

Trial Runs Before an attack, terrorists will usually practice with a trial run to work out any flaws in their plan. A dry run may be the heart of the planning stage of a terrorist act. Multiple dry runs may be conducted near the target to gain further intelligence.

Getting into Position The final sign is someone deploying assets or getting into position. This is your last chance to alert authorities before the terrorist act occurs.

Pre-incident indicators may come months or even years apart so it is extremely important to document every piece of information, no matter how insignificant it may appear and then forward it to the proper authorities.

Many of these activities, in and of themselves, may not indicate criminal activity. Taken together, however, they may be a cause for concern. If you observe something you believe to be suspicious, contact law enforcement immediately.